

EXPERIENCING GOD

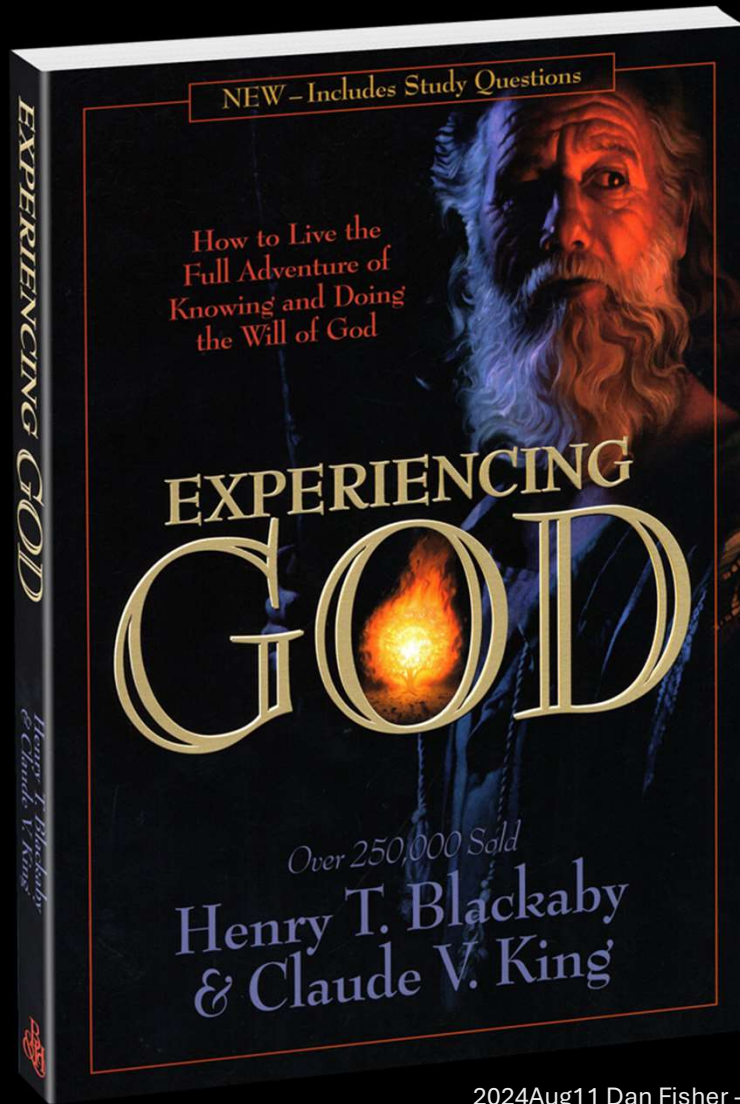


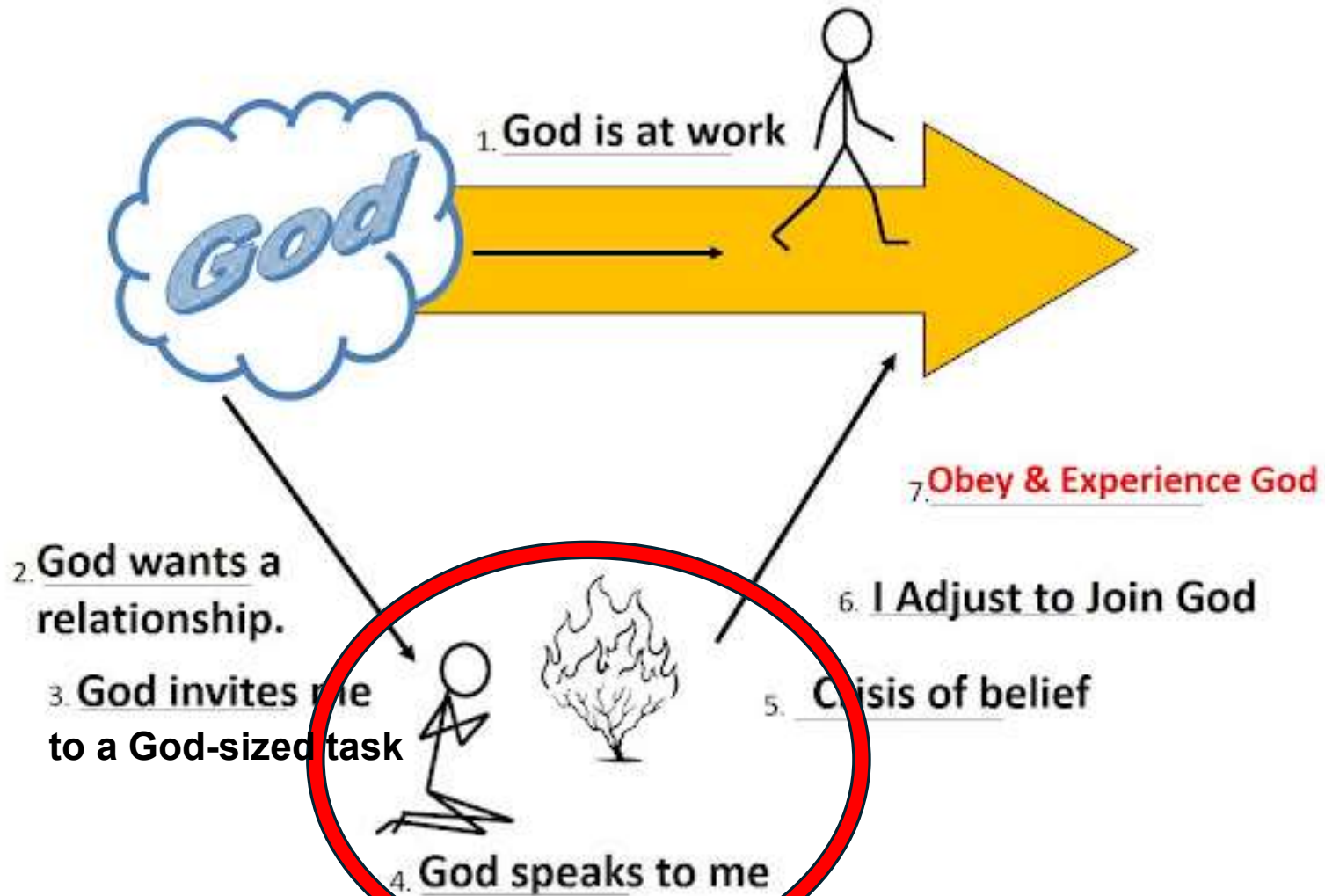
Part 7: God is speaking to you – but how?




The answer to that
question has massive
spiritual impact for all
of us









Bethel Church & School of Supernatural Min Redding, CA

Bill Johnson

2024Aug11 Dan Fisher - Experiencing God (Part 7B)

Prophetic Deliverance Pastor at Bethel, calls herself
a “Seer Prophet,” counsels through her Heartscaping
ministry



“And I was kind of nervous about it because I realized some people are like ‘Ahhhhh’ you know? But I’m like ‘Whatever **it’s my truth**, you know? **Whatever.**”



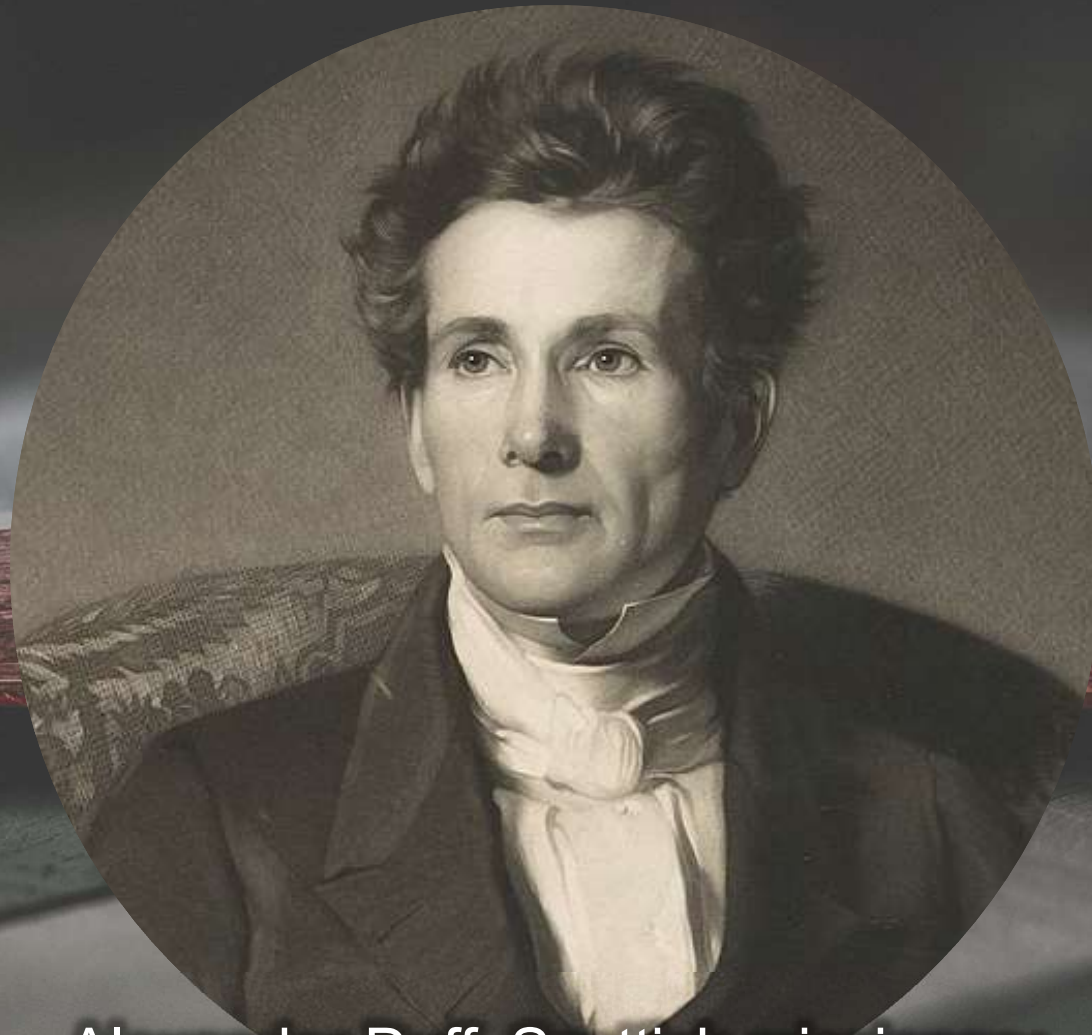
In the 1970s-80s, the issue was the inerrancy of Scripture.

That battle was won in the late 1980s.



The fight today is over the sufficiency of Scripture.

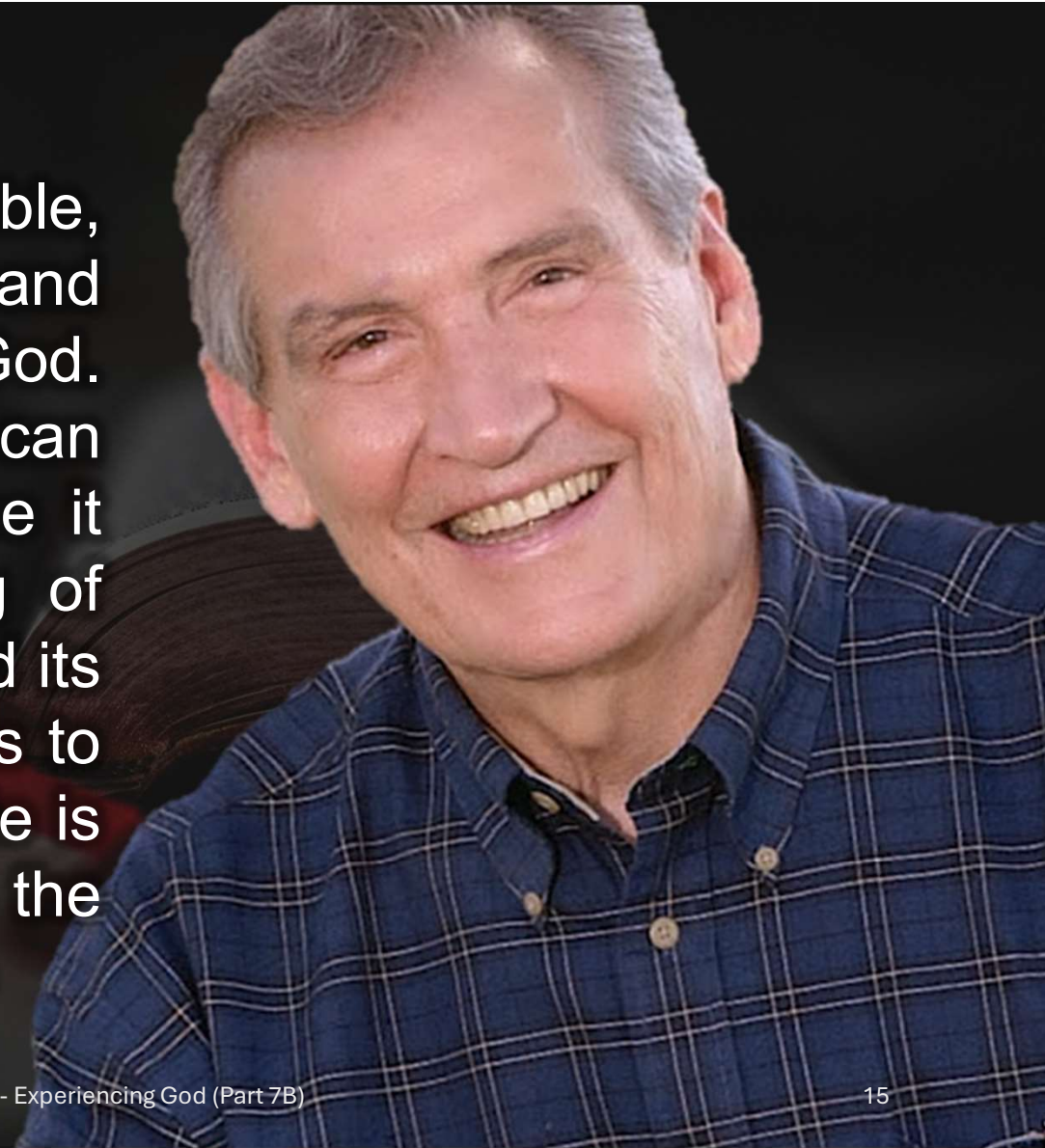
Is Scripture all we need to successfully live the Christian life, or do we need something extra?



Alexander Duff, Scottish missionary

2024Aug11 Dan Fisher - Experiencing God (Part 7B)

“The Bible is the incontestable, incorruptible, indestructible, and indispensable Word of God. Nothing can corrupt it. Nothing can destroy it. Nothing can replace it as the source and wellspring of life. ... [M]any have pronounced its death, but the corpse continues to outlive its pallbearers. The Bible is not the book of the month. It is the Book of the ages.” **Adrian Rogers**





Mark Batterson

Lead Pastor, Nat'l Comm Church
Washington, D.C.

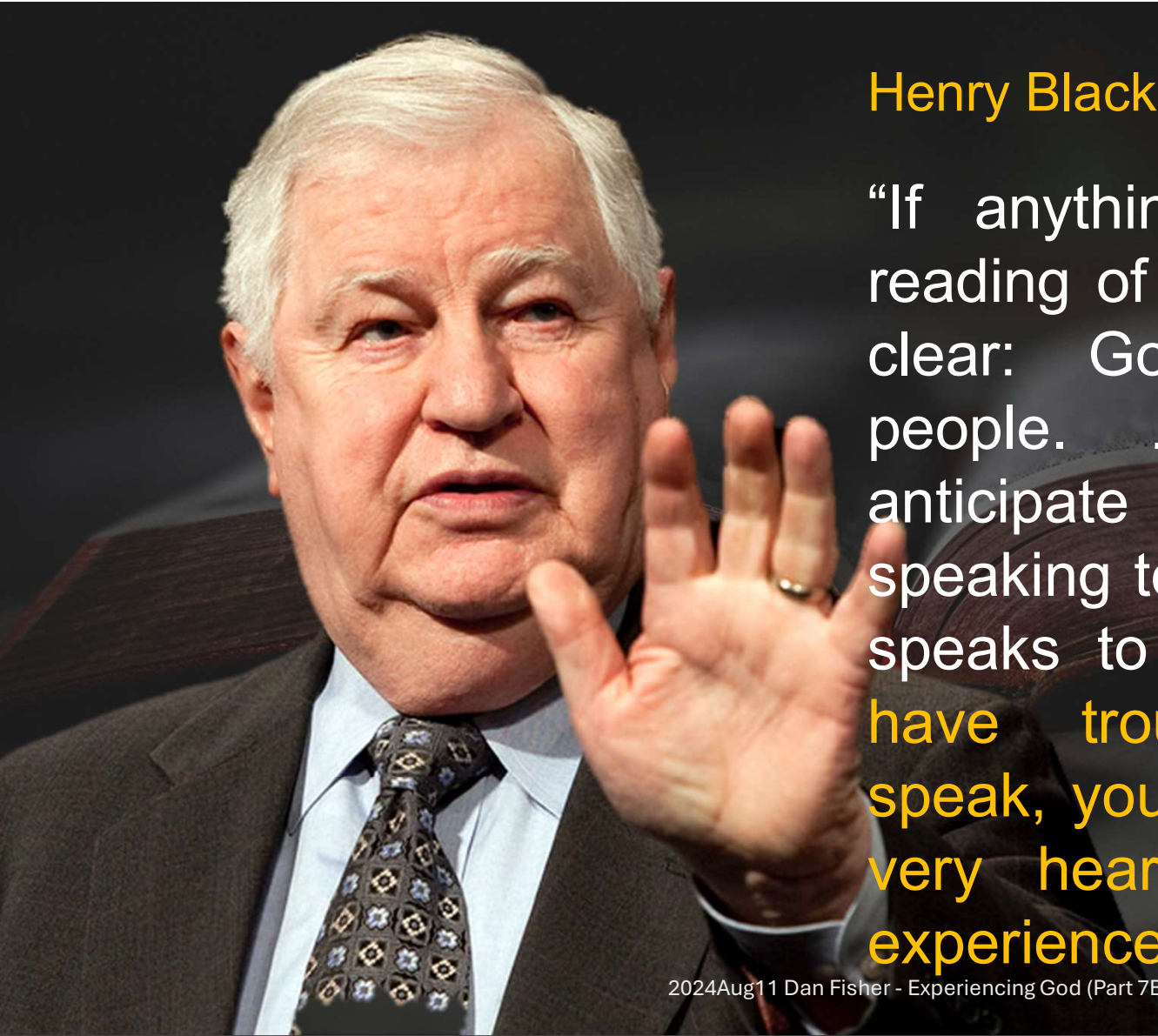
Whisper: How to Hear the Voice of God:

“I believe God speaks in the same ways now as He did then, but now we have the distinct advantage of having Scripture as our sounding board. ... To believe that God speaks only through the Bible is to handcuff the God of the Bible as the Bible has revealed Him to us. ... There is a very subtle form of idolatry called bibliolatry. It involves treating the Bible as an end in itself instead of a means to an end. ... Yes, Scripture provides our checks and balances.”



Dallas Willard, *Hearing God*:

“The Bible is one of the results of God’s speaking. ... while the Bible is the written Word of God, the word of God is not simply the Bible.”



Henry Blackaby, *Experiencing God*:

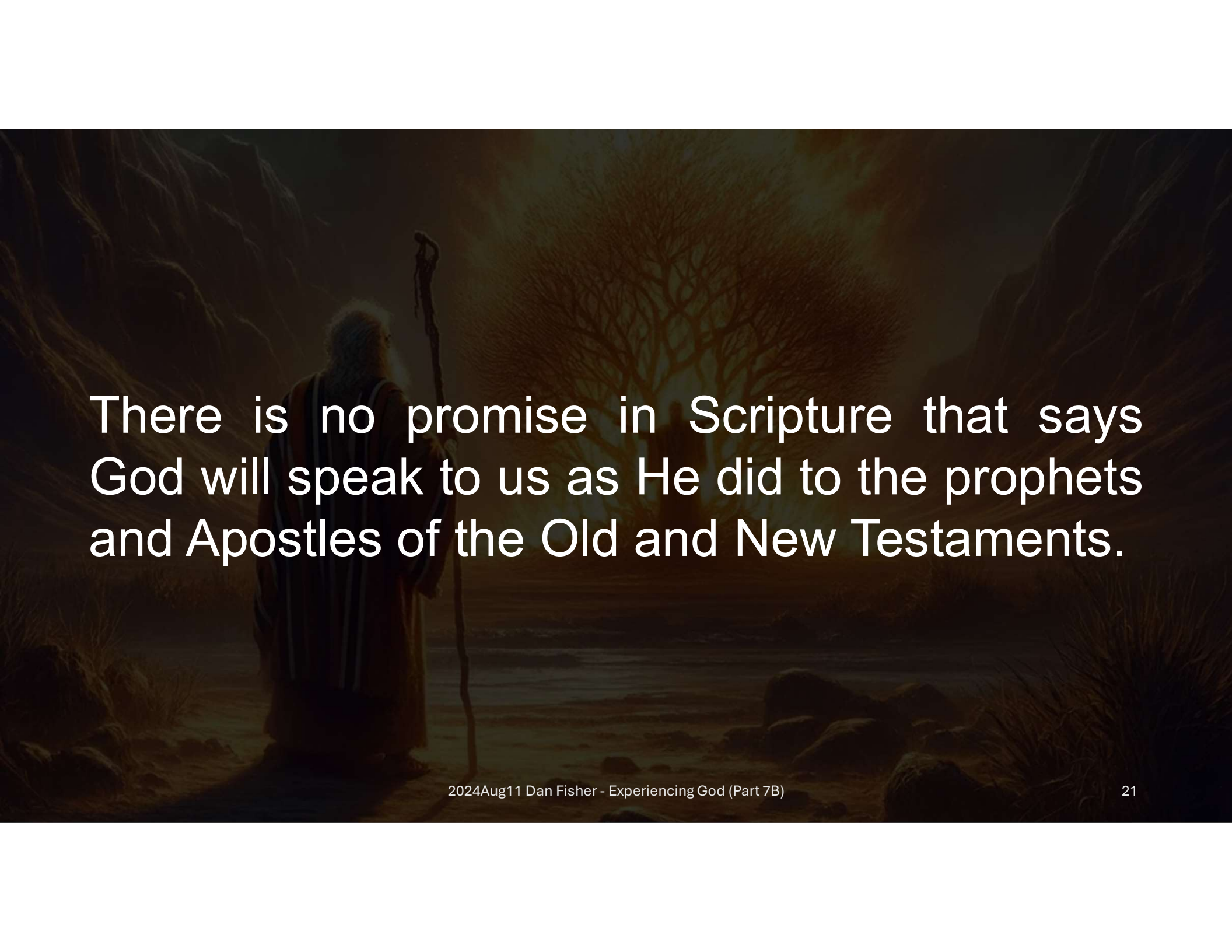
“If anything is clear from a reading of the Bible, this fact is clear: God speaks to His people. ... and you can anticipate that He will be speaking to you also. ... He still speaks to His people. **If you have trouble hearing God speak, you are in trouble at the very heart of your Christian experience.**”

A portrait of Charles Stanley, an older man with white hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit, light blue shirt, and patterned tie. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a gentle expression. In the background, an open Bible is visible, with its pages fanned out. The lighting is soft, highlighting his face against a dark background.

Charles Stanley, *How to Listen to God*:

“[T]he Bible is explicit, God speaks to us just as powerfully today as in the days in which the Bible was written.”





There is no promise in Scripture that says God will speak to us as He did to the prophets and Apostles of the Old and New Testaments.

God Doesn't Whisper:

“Scripture is God’s complete revelation of Himself to humanity. ... Scripture is not a ‘record’ of things God has said. It *is* what God has said. ... The only way the doctrines of inspiration, inerrancy, and infallibility can mean anything is if Scripture *alone* is the Word of God. In a theology where God speaks outside Scripture, the ground beneath these doctrines erodes away to nothing. Scripture is unique because it *alone* is the Word of God.”



Jim Osman

Pastor, Kootenai Comm. Church
Sandpoint, ID

“There are few cows as sacred in modern evangelicalism as the belief that God is speaking to His children outside of Scripture through visions, dreams, promptings, impressions, confirmations, signs, an inner peace, and the still small voice.”

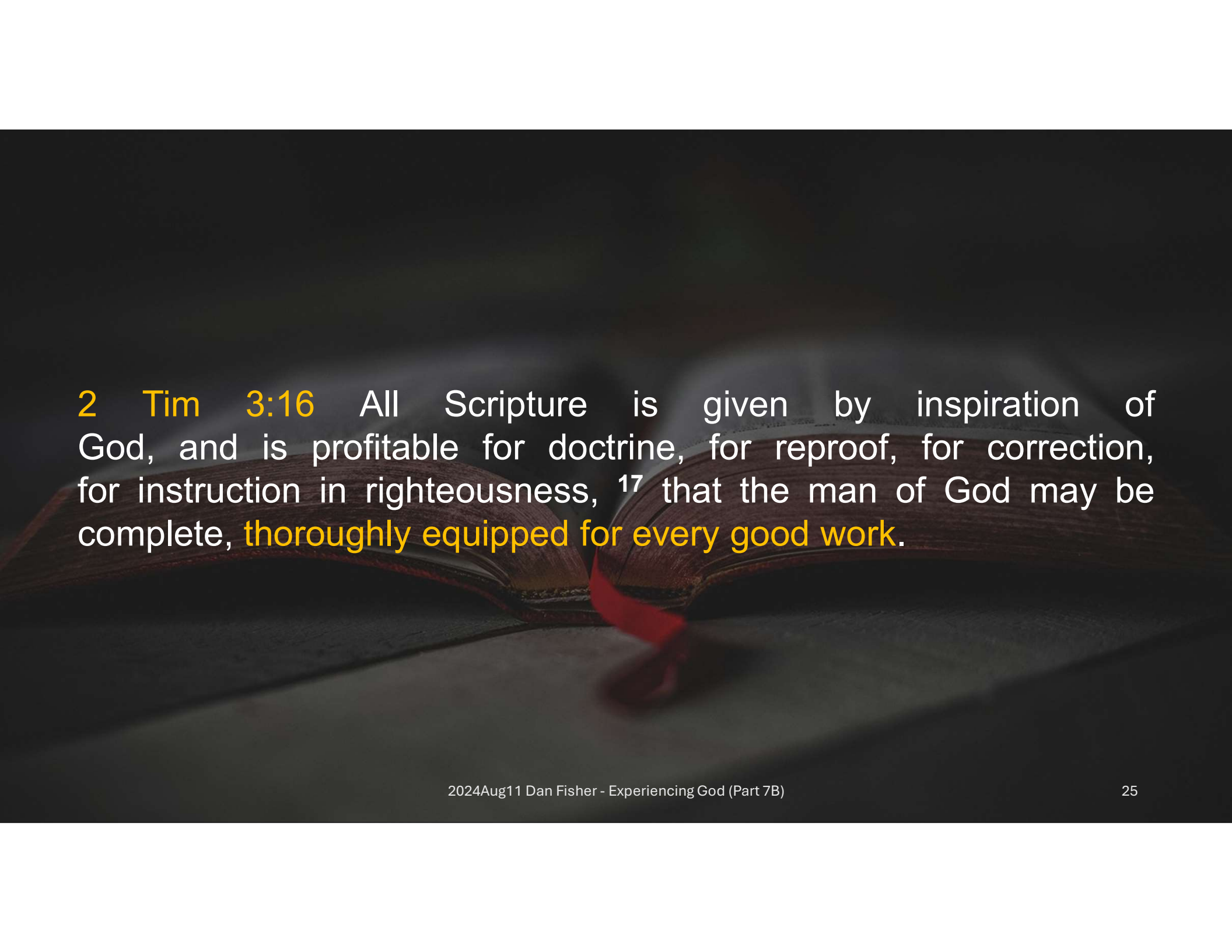


Jim Osman

Pastor, Kootenai Comm. Church
Sandpoint, ID



The **primary** way God speaks to His children is **His Word - Scripture**



2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, **thoroughly equipped for every good work.**



1. Scripture is sacred

Deut 4:2 You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.

Prov 30:5-6 Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him. ⁶ Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.

Rev 22:18-19 If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

Deut 18:20-22 But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.’²¹ And if you say in your heart, ‘How shall we know the word which the Lord has not spoken?’—²² when a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.

Jer 28:15-16 Then the prophet Jeremiah said to Hananiah the prophet, “Hear now, Hananiah, the Lord has not sent you, but you make this people trust in a lie.¹⁶ Therefore thus says the Lord: ‘Behold, I will cast you from the face of the earth. This year you shall die, because you have taught rebellion against the Lord.’ ”



2. Scripture is settled

- **God does not change**

Mal 3:6 “For I am the Lord, I do not change;”

Heb 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Js 1:17 ... the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

- **God's word does not change**

Ps 119:89 Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven.

1 Chron 16:12,15 Remember ... the judgments of His mouth, ... His covenant forever, the word which He commanded, for a thousand generations,

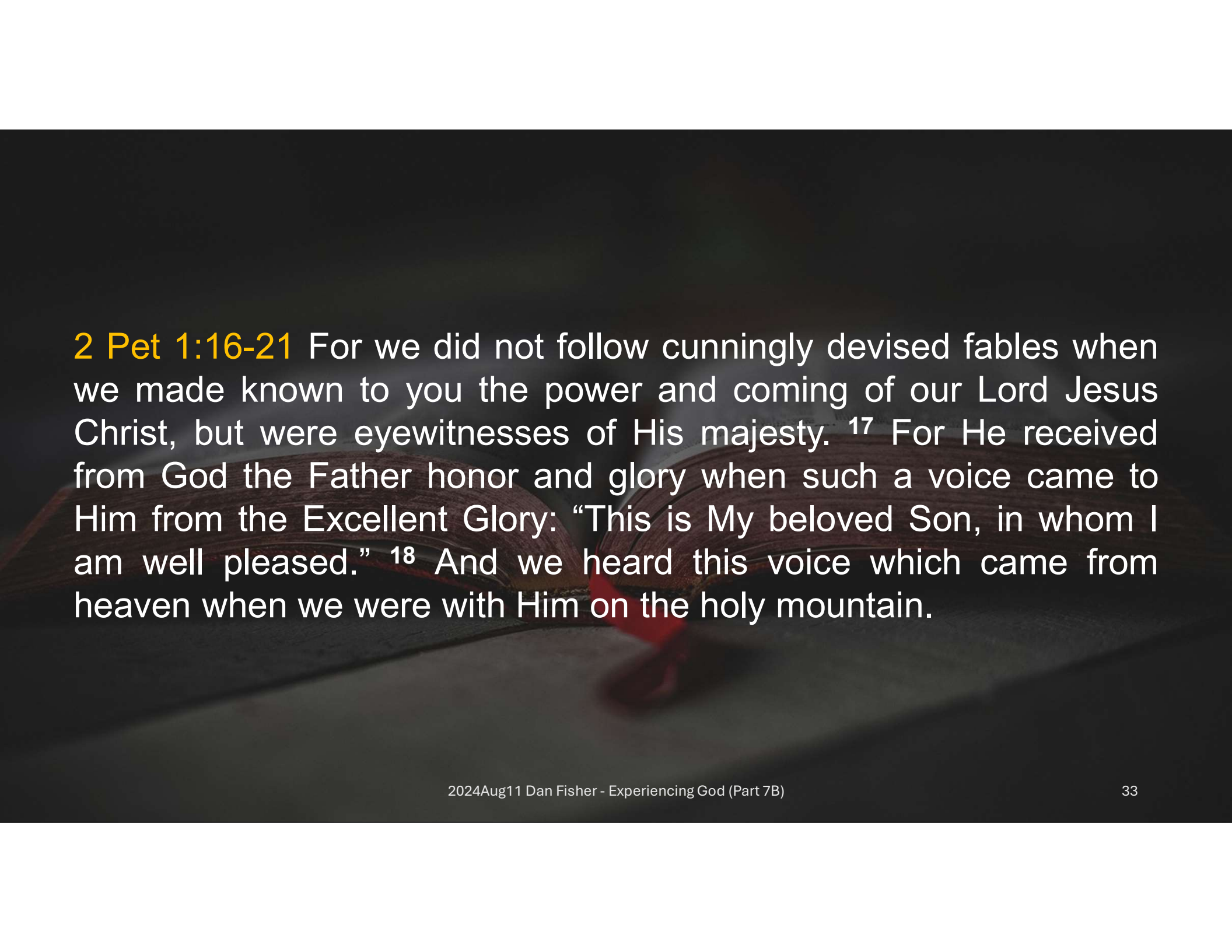
Is 40:8 The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.” (1 Pet 1:25)

Mt 5:18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

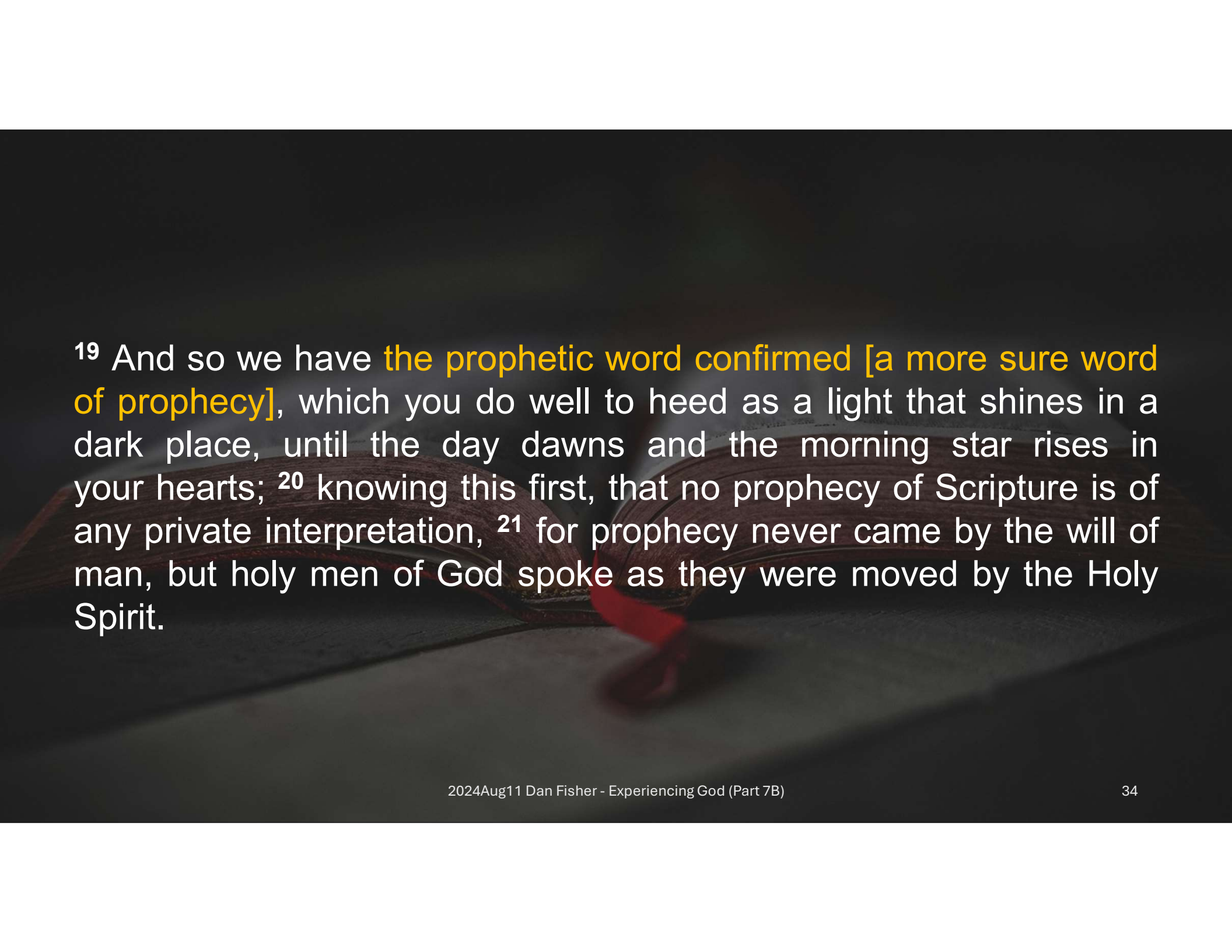
Mt 24:35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.



3. Scripture is superior



2 Pet 1:16-21 For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. ¹⁷ For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” ¹⁸ And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.



¹⁹ And so we have the prophetic word confirmed [a more sure word of prophecy], which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; ²⁰ knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, ²¹ for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.



4. Scripture is sufficient

2 Pet 1:3 as His divine power has given to us **all things** that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

Heb 1:1-2 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us **by His Son**, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;

2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, **thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

Jn 5:39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.

“They have moses and the prophets” – Lk 16

Bereans – Acts 17:11

Rom 15:4 For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

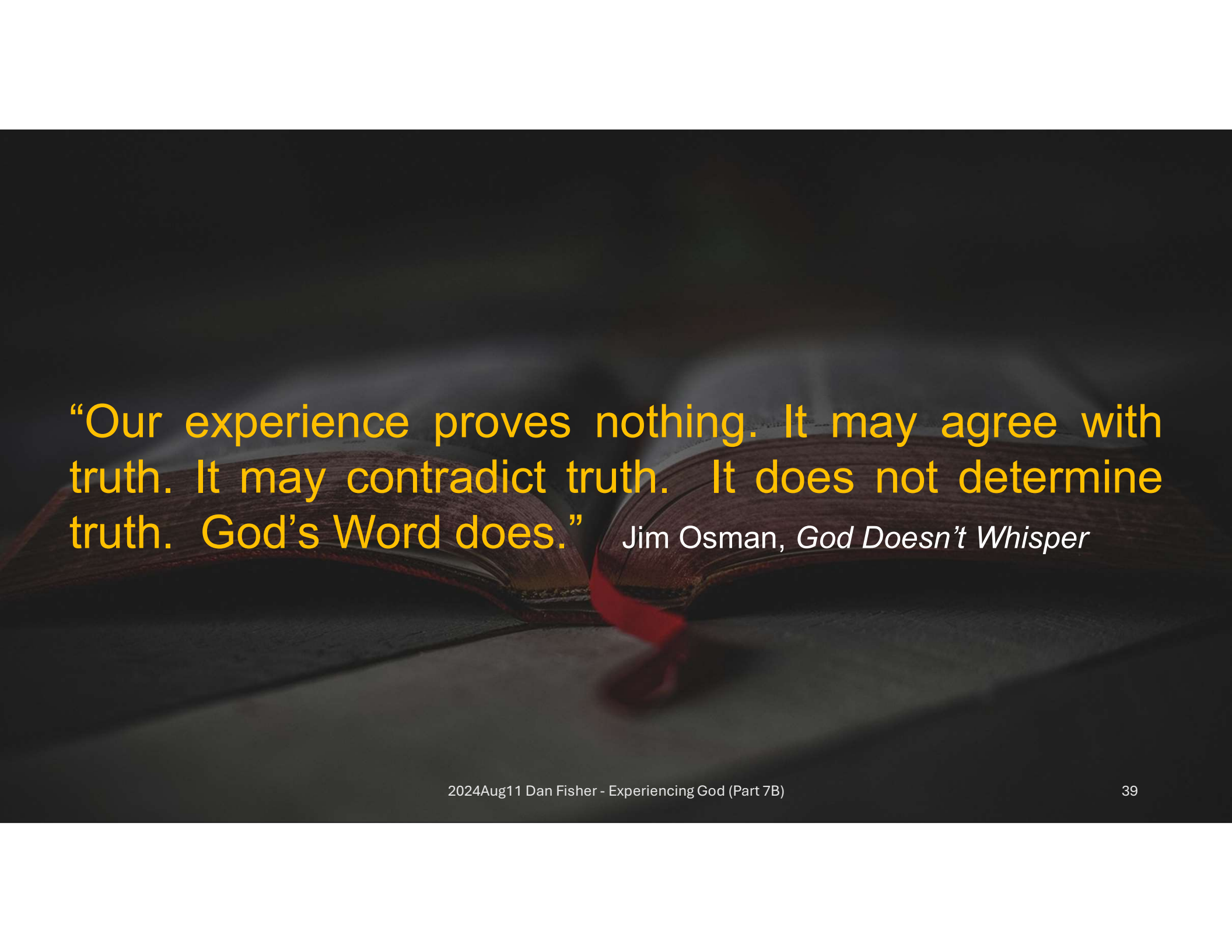
Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom

1 Thess 2:13 For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.



If God has spoken to us sufficiently in the Scriptures – nothing more is necessary.

If Scripture is not sufficient, we cannot know, absolutely, what God's word is and we are lost in a sea of subjectivism.

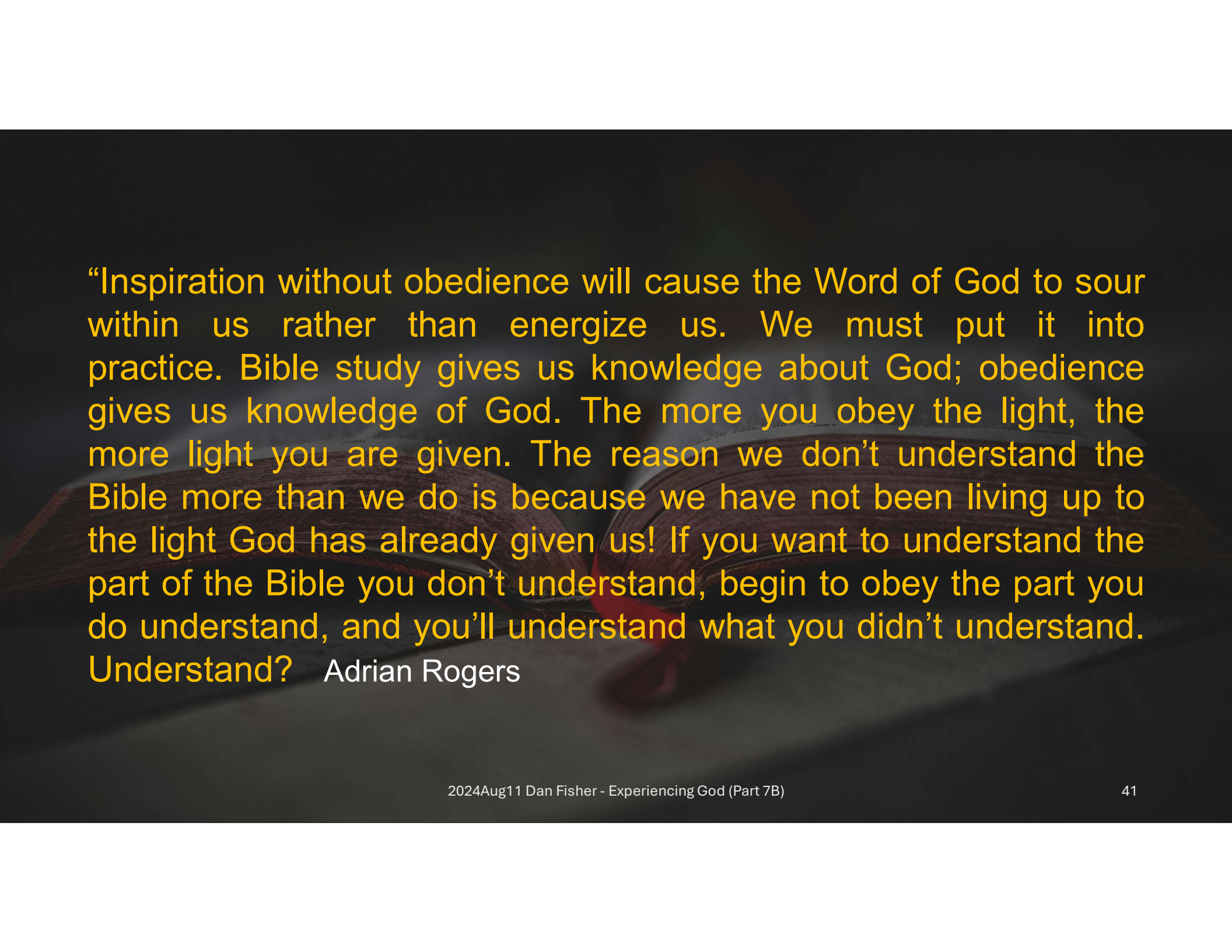


“Our experience proves nothing. It may agree with truth. It may contradict truth. It does not determine truth. God’s Word does.”

Jim Osman, *God Doesn’t Whisper*



“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.” Jesus Christ



“Inspiration without obedience will cause the Word of God to sour within us rather than energize us. We must put it into practice. Bible study gives us knowledge about God; obedience gives us knowledge of God. The more you obey the light, the more light you are given. The reason we don’t understand the Bible more than we do is because we have not been living up to the light God has already given us! If you want to understand the part of the Bible you don’t understand, begin to obey the part you do understand, and you’ll understand what you didn’t understand. Understand? Adrian Rogers